

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00
TRSE-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 /125 W
-----080533 221238Z /17

R 220637Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 509
INFO /AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 152
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI POUCH
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1680

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: EAID, FT, KU
SUBJECT: DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT VISIT TO KUWAIT

REF: ABU DHABI 730

1. DJIBOUTI PRES. HASSAN GOULED LEFT KUWAIT MARCH 20
AFTER THREE-DAY VISIT, DURING WHICH HE AND HIS PARTY HELD
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TALKS WITH THE AMIR, HIER APPARENT/
PRI MIN, DEPUTY PRI MIN/FON MIN AND OFFICIALS OF THE KUWAIT
FUND FOR ARAB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (KFAED). GOULED'S
STATEMENT TO THE PRESS HIGHLIGHTED THE DISRUPTION TO HIS
GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL SITUATION CAUSED BY THE INFLUX OF
REFUGEES FROM THE SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN WAR, WHICH HE
ASSERTED HAD NEARLY DOUBLED THE DJIBOUTI POPULATION. PRESS
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TREATMENT OF THE VISIT CONVEYED THE IMPRESSION THAT GOULED
HAD COME TO KUWAIT MAINLY SEEKING FUNDS.

2. KUWAITI OFFICIAL INVOLVED IN STATE VISITS, SHEIKH
IBRAHIM AL-SABAH, ASST. UNDER SEC OF MINISTRY OF AMIRI
DIWAN AFFAIRS, CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT GOULED HAD
ASKED GOK FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND THAT SUCH SUPPORT, IF

PROVIDED, WOULD BE CHanneled THROUGH KFAED. HE ASSERTED THAT THE DJIBOUTI PARTY HAD NOT DEFINED ITS REQUIREMENTS, IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS, TO THE DEGREE WHICH ALLOWED IMMEDIATE KFAED CONSIDERATION. HE ADDED THAT WHEN THIS WERE DONE, KFAED MIGHT WISH TO SEND A STUDY TEAM TO DJIBOUTI TO STUDY THE PROPOSED PROJECTS.

3. COMMENT: THE KUWAITIS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN LESS FORTHCOMING THAN THE UAE GOVERNMENT, WHICH REPORTEDLY AGREED TO PROVIDE SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH GRANTS TO DJIBOUTI DURING GOULED'S VISIT THERE MARCH 14-18 (REFTEL). THIS ACCORDS, HOWEVER, WITH THE NORMALLY DELIBERATE AND CONSERVATIVE APPROACH OF THE GOK TO REQUESTS FOR FOREIGN AID.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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